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**PATENT APPLICATION**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of

Docket No: Q66351

Toshiaki AOA, et al.

Appln. No.: 09/961,281

Group Art Unit: 1752

Confirmation No.: 6134

Examiner: Rosemary E. Ashton

Filed: September 25, 2001

For: **POSITIVE RESIST COMPOSITION**

**RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111**

**MAIL STOP AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated March 24, 2004, please consider the remarks as submitted herewith on the accompanying pages. A sworn English translation of Applicants' priority document JP 2000-292537 is submitted herewith.

**REMARKS**

Claims 1-20 are pending in the application.

Claims 1-4, 6 and 17-20 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Hatakeyama.

Applicants submit herewith a sworn English-language translation of their foreign priority document JP 2000-292537 to perfect their claim to priority and remove Hatakeyama as prior art. Hatakeyama has an effective filing date of October 12, 2000 which is later in time than